

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The cable ownership

cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

Michael Powell's own words are the key, we enjoy a wide diversity of program sources and services in the present structure of constraints.

There is no doubt whatever that an aggregation of suppliers will eliminate this diversity and raise prices to the public.

History shows us this is true, it is already in progress in the media consolidations already taken place.

Removing caps to ownership will eliminate the present small players, the less popular programming, and raise prices to all consumers.

Also, we will most likely see shoddy or no service to sparsely populated areas because of the 'unrealistic economy' of installing service to areas of sparse subscribership.

No, this is not the Lone Ranger talking about extinct rules for extinct principles. This is the reality of avarice in the boardroom in the guise of 'what's good for us'.